

Response to OA dated August 8, 2008

U.S. Serial No.: 10/598,456

Inventors: Berger et al.

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**Listing of the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A wobble drive, comprising:

- a shaft;
- a pivot bearing that is situated on the shaft and that is inclined in relation to an axis of rotation of the shaft;
- a wobble finger that extends away from the axis of rotation of the shaft and is held by the pivot bearing; and

~~wherein~~ at least one balance mass is provided on the shaft pivot bearing, spaced from the wobble finger, and spaced from a position on the pivot bearing that is radially across from the wobble finger, the at least one balance mass and the wobble finger tilting back and forth as the shaft rotates with respect thereto.

2. (Previously Presented) The wobble finger drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein the balance mass is situated on the shaft in such a way that it counteracts the imbalance resulting from the design of the wobble drive.

3. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein

- the pivot bearing has an inner ring fashioned on the shaft having an annular inner running surface for roller elements, the inner running surface being situated in a plane that does not stand perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the shaft;
- a wobble ring, situated around the inner ring, is allocated to the pivot bearing, said wobble ring having an outer running surface for the roller elements that is allocated to the inner running surface; and in that
- the wobble finger extends from the wobble ring radially to a center axis of the wobble ring.

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4. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein the balance mass is capable of being manufactured by removing material from the shaft.

5. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein

- the shaft is mounted at least two bearing points;
- a balance mass is allocated to at least one of the bearing points.

6. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 5, wherein

- the shaft is mounted at two bearing points; and wherein
- a balance mass is allocated to each of the bearing points.

7. (Currently Amended) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 6, wherein ~~the axial distance (a) between a bearing point (3) and the balance mass (20) are adjacent such that an axial distance therebetween allocated thereto is minimal.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 6, wherein the balance masses allocated to the two bearing points ~~(3, 4)~~ are situated opposite one another in relation to the axis of rotation ~~(7) of the shaft (1).~~

9. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein the wobble ring is essentially rotationally symmetrical, with the exception of the area from which the wobble finger extends.

10. (Currently Amended) A wobble drive, comprising:

- a shaft;
- a pivot bearing that is situated on the shaft and that is inclined in relation to an axis of rotation of the shaft;

- a wobble ring held by the pivot bearing so that the shaft is rotatable with respect to the wobble ring;  
- a wobble finger that, at a linkage point, extends from the wobble ring radially to a center axis of the wobble ring; and  
~~wherein, on the wobble ring,~~ at least one balance mass is provided on the wobble ring in an area that is situated neither at the linkage point nor opposite the linkage point, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring.

11. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 10, wherein

- the pivot bearing has an inner ring fashioned on the shaft, having an annular inner running surface for roller elements, the inner running surface being situated in a plane that does not stand perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the shaft; and wherein  
- the wobble ring is allocated to the inner ring, and has an annular outer running surface, allocated to the inner running surface, for the roller elements.

12. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 10, wherein two balance masses are provided that are situated opposite one another on the wobble ring, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring.

13. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 10, wherein two balance masses are provided, and wherein the linkage point stands at the same angular distance to the two balance masses, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring.

14. (Currently Amended) The wobble drive as recited in Claim ~~10~~13, wherein

- the one balance mass is situated in an area of the wobble ring that is offset by +90° relative to the linkage point of the wobble finger, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring, and wherein  
- the other balance mass is situated in an area of the wobble ring that is offset by -90° relative to

the linkage point of the wobble finger, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring.

15. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 10, wherein the wobble ring is essentially rotationally symmetrical, with the exception of the linkage point from which the wobble finger extends and the areas in which the balance masses are provided.

16. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 10, wherein the balance mass is capable of being manufactured by removing material from the wobble ring.

17. (Currently Amended) A wobble drive, comprising:

- a shaft;

- a pivot bearing including a wobble ring that is situated on the shaft and is inclined in relation to ~~an axis of rotation of thereto~~, the shaft being rotatable with respect to the wobble ring;

- a wobble finger that, at a linkage point, extends from the wobble ring radially to a center axis of the wobble ring, that extends away from the axis of rotation of the shaft, and that is held by the pivot bearing;

- wherein at least one balance mass is fashioned on the shaft, and

- wherein at least one additional balance mass is provided on the wobble ring in an area that is situated neither at the linkage point nor opposite the linkage point, in relation to the center axis of the wobble ring.

18. (Previously Presented) The wobble drive as recited in Claim 1, wherein a balance mass is formed from a plurality of balance mass elements.

19. (New) A wobble drive, comprising:

- a shaft;

- a pivot bearing including,

- (i) a bearing inner ring that is inclined in relation to and rotates in unison with the shaft;

and

(ii) a wobble ring that concentrically surrounds~~ing~~ and is supported by the bearing inner ring,

the bearing inner ring rotating with respect to the wobble ring and correspondingly tilting the wobble ring back and forth;

- a wobble finger that extends~~ing~~ radially from the wobble ring and that tilts~~ing~~ back and forth in unison with the wobble ring, the wobble finger maintaining essentially an unchanged orientation transversely with respect to the shaft while tilting back and forth longitudinally along the shaft; and

- at least one balance mass that is provided on the wobble ring and that is~~being~~ spaced from the wobble finger.